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Fueling Growth in the Composites and Advanced Materials Industry

Composites and Advanced Materials: A Growing Sector 2006-2013

Since 2006, companies in the composites and advanced materials sector have announced over \$1.5 billion in capital investment in South Carolina creating over 2,700 new jobs. The table below highlights a few of these recent announcements.

Company	Jobs	Capital Investment
Toray	500	\$1 Billion
GKN Aerospace	250	\$38 Million
TIGHITCO	350	\$30 Million
Innovative Composites	300	\$9.3 Million
Carbures	50	\$6.5 Million
LifeStone Materials	45	\$5.5 Million
DUER High Performance Composites	47	\$1 Million
Composite Resources	50	\$3.5 Million
Cargo Composites	40	\$700,000

Research and Development

The South Carolina Research Authority's (SCRA) Composite Manufacturing Technology Center and Clemson University's Advanced Materials Center in Anderson, South Carolina comprise one of the top R&D and application centers for composites in the world. The Advanced Materials Center has some of the world's brightest science and engineering faculty and graduate students conduct leading-edge research. The Center is a major catalyst for collaboration between the private and public sectors. Most notably research on fibers, ceramic technology, plastics and advanced composites technology has been conducted for and recognized by the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense and NASA; all three have offered funding to fuel future innovation.

The Composites Manufacturing Technology Center (CMTC) is one of nine United States Navy Manufacturing Centers of Excellence in the United States. The Centers of Excellence support the U.S. Navy's Office of Naval Research and are internationally recognized for their work in improving weapons systems and troop safety for U.S. forces. Currently, the SCRA is fulfilling a \$150 million contract to develop lighter-weight technology for Navy ships, tanks and airplanes.

Graduating more than 1,000 engineering students each year, Clemson University and the University of South Carolina help provide a solid pipeline for composites and advanced materials companies seeking an educated and talented workforce.